



Dear Anatomy and Physiology Students,

Welcome to Human Anatomy and Physiology I (BSC 2085). I'm looking forward to a great semester in what may well be the most intense course you'll take here at Miami Dade College.

Most, but not all, of you are headed towards careers in Biomedical and Health Sciences, and this course is your "rite of passage" or stepping stone into those careers. As you will see, Anatomy and Physiology holds a special place in the history of Western thought; and in today's world it forms one of the foundational bases for modern medicine. The sheer volume of information, and the intensity of the lab experience, also means it will be one of the most difficult courses you will tackle during your educational journey.

Learning Anatomy and Physiology is most like learning a new language. As such, it can be a life-changing experience and it will bring incredible new powers as you gain the ability to communicate about our human bodies and how they work at a level of precision and detail you never thought possible. This course requires a lot of dedication and motivation. The principle reason that students struggle with this class is they have so many other obligations that they simply cannot find the time and energy to dedicate to Anatomy and Physiology. It's not too soon to consider how you can arrange other obligations—work, other classes, family, etc.—to give yourself the time and space needed to immerse yourself in Human Anatomy and Physiology.

The good news is that everyone has an intrinsic interest in their own body and how it works. Family members of any age, co-workers, friends and student colleagues will love hearing about what you're learning. They *will* collaborate in your need to practice this new language, especially if you bring your upbeat attitude, your love of learning about the human body, and your dream to make it through this great and exciting rite of passage and move on to your chosen career.

Here's to the Journey, and to using your new power wisely and humanely,

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